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Tami M. Procopio

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Tracy D. WILKINS, et al.

Serial No.: 09/545,772

Filing Date: 10 April 2000

For: RECOMBINANT TOXIN A PROTEIN

CARRIER FOR POLYSACCHARIDE

CONJUGATE VACCINES

Examiner: Vanessa L. Ford

Group Art Unit: 1645

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein, mailed 7 July 2003, time for response to which was set to expire 7 October 2003. A petition for an extension of time of two (2) months until 7 December 2003 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. Applicants greatly appreciate the withdrawal of the finality of the previous rejection and note that the present rejection is non-final. All pending claims were rejected, but none over the art. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.